

TESTIMONY OF
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 23: AAC GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

FEBRUARY 26, 2008

The Department supports Senate Bill No. 23. The Department is charged with overseeing and implementing the state's Renewable Portfolio Standards and energy efficiency and conservation goals. The Department is committed to working with the Governor, sister agencies and the legislature to meet the climate change challenges.

The Department is an active member on the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. In these roles, the Department works closely with the Department of Environmental Protection to further develop and refine climate change strategies.

The Department also actively participates in the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners' Task Force on Climate Policy and is currently working with federal officials to ensure that the state's activities on climate are not derailed or hampered by potential federal regulation of carbon.

Finally, the Department commends the bill's acknowledgement of the need for further development of technologies to address climate change. Technology is the key to meeting the environmental challenges ahead and the Department urges the legislature to adopt measures to facilitate further research and development of new low-carbon technologies.

Thank you.